

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MANAMA 01179 191608Z

44

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /057 W

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R 191402Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY MANAMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2517

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI UAE

AMEMBASSY DOHA QATAR

AMEMBASSYJIDDASAUDI ARABIA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN IRAN

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E.O. 11652 : N/A

TAGS : PGOV, BA

SUBJECT : SOME BAHRAINI LEFTISTS RELEASED

1. IN CONNECTION WITH THE LATE AUGUST POLITICAL MOVES RESULTING IN THE DISSOLUTION OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, THE GOVERNMENT ARRESTED UP TO 40 MEMBERS OF LEFTIST ORGANIZATIONS, NOTABLY THE NATIONAL LIBERATION FRONT OF BAHRAIN AND THE POPULAR FRONT FOR THE LIBERATION OF OMAN.

SUBSEQUENTLY ON SEPTEMBER 14, A LEFTIST NATIONAL ASSEMBLY MEMBER, ALI RABIA, WAS ARRESTED FOR SENDING A CABLE TO THE INTER-PARLIAMENTARY UNION CONFERENCE IN LONDON ALLEGING BAHRAINI CITIZENS HAD BEEN DETAINED WITHOUT TRIAL AND WERE BEING SUBJECTED TO TORTURE.

2. SINCE THE ARRESTS, INVESTIGATION OF THOSE DETAINED CONTINUE, CHARGES ARE BEING PREPARED AND SOME HAVE ALREADY BEEN BROUGHT TO TRIAL. ACCORDING TO PUBLIC INFORMATION TO DATE, TWO OF THE DETAINEES HAVE BEEN SENTENCED TO ONE MONTH IN PRISON AND FINED \$100 EACH FOR POSSESSION OF ILLEGAL DISSIDENT LEAFLETS. TWO OTHERS, JOURNALISTS, HAVE HAD COURT HEARINGS ON SPECIFIC CHARGES OF

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PAGE 02 MANAMA 01179 191608Z

VIOLATION OF THE 1955 PUBLICATIONS ORDINANCE AND THE 1955

PENAL CODE. FURTHER DISPOSITION OF THEIR CASES HAS BEEN
POSTPONED UNTIL NOVEMBER. FORMER NATIONAL ASSEMBLY MEMBER
RABIA HAS BEEN RELEASED PENDING FURTHER INVESTIGATION AND HIS
PASSPORT IS BEING HELD TO PREVENT HIS LEAVING BAHRAIN.

TWINAM

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DETENTION, LEGISLATORS, CENTRAL LEGISLATURE, ARRESTS, EXTREMISTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 OCT 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: KelleyW0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975MANAMA01179
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750363-0131
From: MANAMA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751040/aaaabjxi.tel
Line Count: 66
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: KelleyW0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <24 JUN 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <13 NOV 2003 by KelleyW0>
Review Markings:

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Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: : SOME BAHRAINI LEFTISTS RELEASED
TAGS: PGOV, BA, (RABIA, ALI)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006